

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): Method for treating ~~and/or preventing~~ diarrhoea in mammals or for preventing diarrhoea in young mammals normally subject to diarrhoea which comprises administering to the mammals an effective daily amount of a composition comprising, as active ~~component(s)~~ component, phytosterols and/or pentacyclotriterpenes as present in or derived from Shea oil.
2. (currently amended): Method according to Claim 1 wherein the mammals are weaning piglets or weaning babies.
3. (currently amended): Method according to Claim 1 wherein the phytosterols and/or pentacyclotriterpenes have ~~the natural~~ a composition of corresponding with the shea sterols or shea pentacyclotriterpenes as present in shea olein.
4. (original): Method according to Claim 3 wherein the shea sterols or pentacyclotriterpenes comprise more than 50 wt % of 4,4-dimethylsterols or 4,4-dimethyl pentacyclotriterpenes selected from the group consisting of alpha-amyrin, beta-amyrin, butyrospermol and lupeol.
5. (currently amended): Method according to Claim 1 wherein the phytosterols are ~~the free~~ hydroxysterols.
6. (original): Method according to Claim 1 wherein the effective amount is 0.005 to 5 grams/kg body weight of mammal per day.
7. (original): Method according to Claim 1 wherein the active phytosterols and/or pentacyclotriterpenes are administered as part of the food or feed for the mammal.
8. (original): Method according to Claim 7 wherein the food or the feed contains 0.001 to 85 wt% of the active component.

9. (original): Method according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of feed products, medicaments and dietary supplements.

10. (currently amended): Method for the preparation of ~~a feed or a feed product~~ an animal feed having anti-diarrhoea or anti-scouring properties comprising ~~carbohydrates and proteins wherein the feed or feed product has anti-diarrhoea or anti-scouring properties by the incorporation of~~ incorporating in an animal feed comprising carbohydrates and proteins an effective amount of phytosterols and/or pentacyclotriterpenes as present in or derived from Shea oil as active component sufficient to provide said properties in said animal feed.

11. (original): Method according to Claim 10 wherein the food product contains 0.001 to 50 wt% of the active component.

12. (currently amended): Method according to Claim 10 wherein the active components are the ~~natural~~ shea sterols, and/or pentacyclotriterpenes as present in shea olein.

13. (original): Method according to Claim 12 wherein the shea sterols and/or shea pentacyclotriterpenes comprise at least 50 wt % of 4,4-dimethyl derivatives of shea sterols and/or shea pentacyclotriterpenes selected from the group consisting of alpha-amyrin, beta-amyrin, butyrospermol and lupeol.

14. (canceled)

15. (new): Method according to Claim 1 which the diarrhoea is caused by bacterial infection.

16. (new): The method of Claim 1 wherein the mammals are weaning mammals.